

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: BONN SUMMIT

1. AGENCE EUROPE (BRUSSELS BASED DAILY NEWSLETTER ON
EC AFFAIRS) EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER US REACTIONS TO THE
PROPOSED NEW EUROPEAN MONETARY PLAN.

2. ON FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL PAPER COMMENTED: "THE PROPOSALS
WHICH MR. BLUMENTHAL HAS ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT CARTER
LEND THEMSELVES TO ALARMING INTERPRETATIONS, BUT, SINCE
THEY WERE SPREAD IN THE ACTUAL CONFERENCE, OTHER MORE
PACIFYING COMMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE. ACCORDING TO WHAT A
WITNESS SAID, MR. SOLOMON HAS TAKEN ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR
THIS: HE EXPLAINED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD REACTED SINCE
HE HAD BEEN VERY NETTLED BY THE FACT THAT DURING THE
MONETARY DISCUSSION IT HAD BECOME APPARENT THAT THE DOLLAR
IS SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE ROOT OF ALL THE WORLD'S
MISFORTUNES. TENSION THEN EASED OFF. THE EPISODE
SHOULD NOT BE OVER-DRAMATISED BUT THE PROBLEM IS STILL
THERE. THIS IS SHOWN BY THE ORIGINAL AMERICAN TEXT
WHICH WE HAVE SUMMARISED ON P.9 OF THIS BULLETIN. NO
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DOUBT THE QUESTIONS BEING ASKED WILL RECEIVE A REPLY BUT
IT IS CLEAR THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL NOW HAVE TO MOVE
QUICKLY AND WITHOUT ANY HESITATION ALONG THE ROAD WHICH
IT HAS CHOSEN SINCE ANY OTHER ATTITUDE WOULD BE ATTRIBUTED
TO EXTERNAL INFLUENCES AND WOULD DESTROY THE COMMUNITY'S
PRESENT AND FUTURE CREDIBILITY AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. THE
MONETARY FACTOR HAS CEASED TO BE A TECHNICAL ISSUE AND HAS

NOW BECOME A POLITICAL ONE. FURTHERMORE, THE LOGIC MUST BE RESPECTED. SINCE INTERNAL MONETARY STABILITY IS ONE OF THE CONDITIONS FOR NONINFLATIONIST EXPANSION, ITS REALISATION HAS BECOME AN ELEMENT OF THE OVERALL STRATEGY DEFINED IN BONN. TO QUESTION IT WOULD MEAN QUESTIONING THIS STRATEGY. NOBODY CAN HAVE ANY INTEREST IN ACTING THUS."

3. SUMMING UP BONN MEETING, AGENCE EUROPE CONCLUDED:
"SO WE COME TO THE CONCLUSION, WHICH TAKES THE FORM OF A QUESTION: WILL THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT BE IN A POSITION TO FULFIL THEIR COMMITMENTS? THERE IS NO NEED TO FISH FOR CYNICISM TO RECOGNISE THAT NO HEAD OF GOVERNMENT IN OUR PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACIES, COULD GUARANTEE HIS COMMITMENTS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT. BUT THERE IS A TWOFOLD REPLY AND IT IS CONTAINED IN THE BONN DOCUMENT.

THE FIRST IS THE INTRODUCTION OF A SORT OF 'CONTROL MECHANISM' FOR IMPLEMENTATION. THE DECISION TO REVIEW THE DECLARATION BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR IS SIGNIFICANT SINCE IT BEARS WITNESS TO THE FACT THAT THE DETERMINATION WHICH HAS BEEN EXPRESSED IS NOT JUST A FACADE.

THE SECOND CONSISTS IN CREATING A CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE, OR RATHER OF HOPE. THE BONN PROGRAMME SHOULD HAVE THE CONSENSUS OF THE PEOPLES, WITHOUT WHICH IT WILL FAIL. THIS
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IS WHY THE SEVEN HAVE SAID THAT THEY WILL NOW TRY TO GET THE SUPPORT OF OUR PARLIAMENTS AND PUBLIC OPINION."
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